

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of marking a skin for a vehicle interior trim panel to indicate the position or function of a switch comprising the steps of:

providing a skin formed by casting, spray coating, blow molding or thermoforming having a color, said colored skin having an outer skin layer surface;

providing a substrate layer;

providing a foam layer bonded directly to said substrate layer and to said colored skin;

providing one or more switches embedded in said foam layer and underlying said colored skin;

activating a laser, said laser emitting a laser beam;

projecting said laser beam on to said outer skin surface in an area that overlies said one or more switches such that a portion of the skin surface contacted by said laser beam changes color relative to a portion of said outer skin surface not contacted by said laser to create a marking.

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which claim the Applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner, in the Office Action mailed April 3, 2003, rejected claim 1 as being indefinite under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as it was deemed unclear whether the skin is colored or the outer skin surface is colored. Claim 1 has been amended to recite "a skin having a color; said colored skin having an outer skin surface". Support can be found at page 15, lines 12-19 which recite that a laser may be used to change the color of the material and preferably the pigments of skin layer 26 as to create markings in the outer surface 18.